

# Experiencing the Diversity of the Delaware

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The Delaware River Sojourn, an annual event to heighten the awareness of and appreciation for the longest undammed river east of the Mississippi, was held June 15 through June 23, 2001.

Titled "A River Odyssey," the eight-day trip covered over 70 miles, combining canoeing, camping, and educational programs.

Sponsors of the 2001 Sojourn were the commission, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR); the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers; PPL; Princeton Hydro LLC; Rohm & Haas; and the William Penn Foundation.

The 2001 Sojourn began at Hankins, N.Y., in the Catskill Mountains, and ended on New Jersey's Maurice River, a tributary to the Delaware Bay.

The trip offered a chance to experience the diversity of the Delaware River system.

An added attraction in 2001 was an art, essay, and poetry contest open to students in grades 8-12 who resided within the Delaware River Basin. The contest's theme was "Delaware: River of Life."

Carol R. Collier, the DRBC's executive director, chaired the 2001 Delaware River Sojourn Steering Committee which organized the event. Other committee members included: American Canoe Association, Bucks County River Country, Delaware and Raritan Greenway, Delaware Canal State Park, Delaware River Greenway Partnership, Friends of the Delaware Canal, Heritage Conservancy, Kittatinny Canoes, Inc., National Canoe Safety Patrol, Natural Lands Trust, National Park Service, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Partnership for the

Delaware Estuary, Inc., Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania DCNR, Pocono Environmental Education Center, Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau, Princeton Hydro, and Upper Delaware Council.

To learn more about the Delaware River Sojourn visit the DRBC web site at: <http://www.nj.gov/drbc/sojourn.htm>.

## Follow That Trail

The commission and the Schuylkill River Greenway Association have obtained a \$60,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Community Conservation Partnerships Program to update a popular set of Schuylkill River recreation maps and to design a "water trail" along the river.

Water trails consist of river access and parking locations; signage to guide trail users on land and water; literature identifying access locations, and river-related natural, cultural, and recreational features of interest. Educational and outreach programs inform people about the trail and promote stewardship of the river.

The commission also is working with the Delaware River Greenway Partnership, the National Park Service (including the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor), and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in designing a water trail for the Delaware River. It would connect the river's headwaters near Hancock, N.Y. to the head of tide at Trenton, N.J.